

REMARKS

The outstanding Communication of August 14, 2007, indicated the Response filed June 1, 2007 was not fully responsive as it did not reply to the requirement for information. More specifically, the Restriction Requirement of May 7, 2007 additionally included a requirement for information, directed to whether any prior art search was performed, whether any art was cited, or if any information was provided from the Japanese Patent Office.

In reply applicants note that in the corresponding Japanese application an Office Action was issued on July 17, 2007, which has been cited in an Information Disclosure Statement on September 4, 2007 in the present application. That Information Disclosure Statement included the art cited in the corresponding Japanese application and an English translation of the Japanese Office Action.

Applicants further indicate that there have been no further developments in the corresponding Japanese application subsequent to that Office Action of July 17, 2007, and that applicants are not aware of any further information that would be relevant to the outstanding requirement for information.

In view of the present response and the Response filed June 1, 2007, applicants submit the present application is now in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits to the elected claims. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number

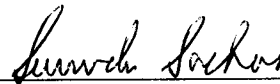
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413-2220

(OSMMN 06/04)

I:\ATTY\SNS\25s\252006\252006US-AM.DOC



Eckhard H. Kuesters

Attorney of Record

Registration No. 28,870

Surinder Sachar

Registration No. 34,423